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STRATEGIC WEAPONS SESSION HELD IN GENEVA 27 MAR

LD271225 Moscow TASS in English 1222 GMT 27 Mar 85

[Text] Geneva March 27 TASS -- A session of the group on strategic weapons was held here today within the framework of the Soviet-U.S. negotiations on nuclear and space arms.

KARPOV STATES SS-20 DEPLOYMENT NUMBERS 396

WA280700 Amsterdam DE VOLKSKRANT in Dutch 13 Mar 85 p 5

[Excerpts] Soviet negotiator Viktor Karpov and his U.S. counterpart Max Kampelman agreed last Tuesday that the new arms negotiations which began yesterday would remain "strictly confidential."

Karpov, when asked whether the Soviet Union now had 396 SS-20 missiles deployed (NATO estimates the number at 414), Karpov replied that there were "no mysteries." "The number is correct," he stated, repeating, "the number is correct."

COMMENTARIES ON MX FUNDING, REAGAN PRESSURE

TV's Fesunenko

OW271321 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1100 GMT 27 Mar 85

[From "The World Today" program presented by Igor Fesunenko]

[Text] The House of Representatives of the U.S. Congress has, after all, sanctioned continuation of the production of first-strike MX intercontinental missiles. Yesterday, with 219 votes against 213, it approved the allocation of $1.5 billion this financial year for the production of another 21 missiles of this kind.

As was known last week, the Senate also approved the allocation of these funds. The voting in the House of Representatives, the results of which were not announced until the very last minute, was preceded by the most intensive White House lobbying of the lawmakers. The President and other administration leaders personally called wavering congressmen, applying carrot-and-stick tactics and occasionally even making frank threats.

As our press has already reported, even Max Kampelman, head of the U.S. delegation at the Soviet-U.S. talks on nuclear and space arms, was urgently recalled from Geneva on Reagan's instructions. During the past 2 days, together with the President, he lobbied the lawmakers with the mendacious thesis that continuation of the MX program will, supposedly, promote the success of the Geneva talks.

As soon as the results of voting became known, President Reagan expressed gratitude to those who, as he said, helped efforts aimed at modernization of the U.S. strategic nuclear potential. In connection with this, the assertion of the White House chief that the result of yesterday's voting was, supposedly, a vote for peace and a vote for success at the Geneva talks -- aimed at ending the arms race, as is known, and not at accelerating it -- is surprising, to say the least.

Reagan's remarks about the administration being supposedly ready to do everything to ensure a significant reduction of arms sounded just as demagogic and insincere.

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